

I am a subscriber to XM Satellite Radio and wish to comment on the petition from the National Association of Broadcasters (Petition 04-160) that would restrict satellite radio stations from providing local weather and traffic. I pay a monthly fee to receive XM Satellite Radio and one reason is that it provides 24-hour traffic reports here in Los Angeles. While it is true that the local radio stations try to provide traffic information, a minute of traffic updates here and there cannot begin to cover an area the size of Los Angeles, a city with over 63 freeways and an area larger than some states. Restricting XM Satellite Radio from broadcasting local traffic (and weather) reports makes no sense. The objection by the National Association of Broadcasters seems to be one of self-protection and self-interest. How about focusing on the interest of the consumer rather than listening to a lobbyist paid by the NAB? I find it offensive that Rep Pickering and Rep, Green have introduced a bill that would limit my choices when the motivation seems to be based on placating the NAB.

I urge opposition to HR 4026.